

Crown makes strategic blunder, deploys Rowland against Al Fayed

by Allen Douglas

At the end of November, the former boss of the British multinational Lonrho, Roland Walter “Tiny” Rowland, filed writs in Britain’s High Court against Mohamed Al Fayed, the owner of the posh Harrod’s department store in London, and against five of Al Fayed’s associates. Rowland claimed that Al Fayed and the others had conspired to break into Rowland’s safe deposit box at Harrods, and had stolen documents, audio tapes, and assorted other items, including rare gems. Rowland charged that Al Fayed personally directed the break-in, because he was searching for material with which to blackmail Rowland into corroborating Al Fayed’s claim, that Rowland had paid a bribe of £1.5 million (\$2,500,000), to former Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) official and later Home Secretary Michael Howard in 1987, for Howard to launch a DTI investigation into Al Fayed’s acquisition of Harrods.

Rowland’s charges received sensational play in the British press on Dec. 4 and Dec. 5. One of the most high-stakes battles in Britain of the late 1980s and early 1990s—Rowland versus Al Fayed—had re-ignited, and was promising to be more sensational than ever. Though Rowland has hated Al Fayed with a passion, ever since he lost control of Harrods to the Egyptian billionaire in the late 1980s, he is not his own master in this affair.

Rather, Rowland’s writs are merely one part of a multi-pronged offensive that the House of Windsor has mounted against Al Fayed, which includes an attempt to damage his reputation through a press slander campaign; to strip his security; and to ruin him financially. The campaign is being coordinated by the MI6 intelligence agency, for which Rowland has worked since World War II; MI6 is answerable, not to the British government, but only to the Crown. Destroying Al Fayed, the Windsors have concluded, is crucial to the success of their cover-up of the assassinations of Diana, Princess of Wales, her companion Dodi Fayed, and their driver, Henri Paul, because Al Fayed demands answers to what really happened in Paris in the Place de l’Alma tunnel on Aug. 31. In addition, the Windsors also intend to punish Al Fayed—a “wog” in the eyes of the British establishment—for having dared to interfere with the monarchy, through fostering his son Dodi’s relationship with Diana. As for Rowland, upon learning of Dodi’s death, he said, of Mohamed Al Fayed, “I send no words of condolence on the death of his son. That man is Al Capone.”

The MI6 campaign against Al Fayed is hardly a secret. The London *Evening Standard*, which is helping to spearhead the press attacks on Al Fayed, charged on Dec. 5, that Al Fayed was being “paranoid,” because his security staff had recently “identified members of MI5 and MI6 carrying out . . . surveillance and training exercises” in Harrods, exercises which the newspaper claimed were merely “routine”!

More importantly, according to the *Sunday Mirror* newspaper of Aug. 31, MI6 had been scheduled to present a dossier on present and proposed actions against the Al Fayed, father and son, to a special meeting of the royal household’s “Way Ahead” group scheduled for early September. *EIR* has previously recounted some highlights of this campaign, including the taps on Dodi’s phone, the surveillance of Dodi and Diana the evening of Aug. 30-31, and the almost-certain involvement of MI6 personnel, through the agency’s station in Paris, in the vehicular attack in the Place de l’Alma tunnel. The *Mirror* emphasized that Prince Philip, in particular, had been in a murderous rage against the Al Fayed for months. The early September meeting was cancelled after Dodi and Diana were assassinated, but the MI6 campaign against Al Fayed continues, most visibly focussing on his security.

Rowland’s lawsuit charged virtually all of Al Fayed’s top associates, with particular emphasis on his security staff, with complicity in the alleged break-in, including Mark Griffiths, his assistant; Paul Handley-Greaves, his personal security director; John Macnamara, the Director of Security at Harrods; and John Allen, his Senior Security Manager. Almost the same day as Rowland’s writs hit the press, another notorious MI6 stringer, Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, ran a nasty piece in the *Daily Telegraph* (the Crown’s favorite newspaper) which profiled, in detail, Al Fayed’s personal security arrangements, including the individuals responsible for them—precisely those whom Rowland had filed suits against. Such combined media and legal attacks are a standard security-stripping procedure, one part of the multi-pronged assault on Al Fayed, which, U.S. intelligence sources have told *EIR*, is designed to break him, and to drive him from Britain.

The ‘crown jewels’ of British intelligence

But, by deploying Tiny Rowland, the wounded House of Windsor has thrown caution to the winds. First of all, despite Rowland’s involvement in numerous such writs over the

years, he has never once taken the witness stand, because he is an inveterate liar, and one whose volcanic temper could easily be triggered on the witness stand. For him to have his "day in court," would be disastrous for himself, and for his patrons. Were he to get anywhere near a courtroom, some of the "crown jewels" of British strategic policy and intelligence operations of the 20th century would tumble forth into the light of day.

Ironically, Rowland himself opened the file on two of these very sensitive questions, in his charges that Al Fayed looted his safe deposit box. Contained in those boxes, according to the papers Rowland filed in court, supplemented by leaks in the British press, are his personal documents regarding the most celebrated British spy of World War II, the man after whom Ian Fleming modelled James Bond: Dusko Popov. Code-named "Tricycle," Popov was the star of British intelligence's famous, and still ultra-classified, "Double Cross" operation of World War II. Though he turned down a knighthood, he was given an Order of the British Empire, was made the godfather to the two nieces of Sir Stewart Menzies, the legendary wartime MI6 chief, and was given a priceless Modigliani painting by the Queen Mother for his work. *Popov's Double Cross unit was the one in which Rowland himself was deployed.*¹

Secondly, Rowland turned the spotlight on his relations to the royal family, by claiming that Al Fayed stole emeralds from his deposit box, which were part of a larger cache from a mine he owned in Rhodesia in the 1950s. Six of the most valuable gems of this cache, he said, were given to the Queen Mother in 1960, in a gold box which he had specially designed. The Crown jewelers, Garrards, have confirmed that they did indeed design the gold box, and a longtime aide to the Queen Mother confirmed to *EIR* on Dec. 5, that she did receive a gift of emeralds at the time Rowland claimed, though not, the spokesperson remonstrated, from Rowland personally.² The protests were not surprising — Rowland has enjoyed

1. According to one source who knew Popov well, he heartily disliked Rowland and other associates of Rowland in Double Cross, who were later regrouped in Lonrho. That does not change the fact of their common deployment.

2. The Queen Mother has long been involved in African affairs, as a spokesman at Buckingham Palace confirmed to *EIR* on Dec. 5. Her interests intersected those of her longtime friend David Stirling, founder of the British Special Air Services (SAS), who ran extensive operations there from the 1940s on. One such was the notorious "Operation Lock" of the late 1980s-early 1990s, in which World Wildlife Fund co-founder Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands deployed a crack team of 22 SAS veterans to southern Africa, to "help save the rhino." The SAS team became deeply involved in illegal ivory trading, poaching, gem smuggling, and other criminal activities. Under cover of organizing "anti-poaching squads," it trained killers who were soon after caught carrying out "Third Force" massacres in order to incite warfare in South Africa between the Zulus and the African National Congress. According to the written account of one SAS veteran, the Queen Mother was a personal investor in Operation Lock, and was the subject of regular toasts at London bars frequented by SAS men. SAS personnel, like those of MI6, swear personal loyalty not to the British government, but to the Crown.

WEST END FINAL

Evening Standard

LONDON, THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER 1997

FREE TOODAY

FREE TOODAY

IT'S BIGGER AND BETTER

London's best 7-day TV & radio guide

Go to France with Le Shuttle for just £9

See Page 18

FAYED FACES '£10m BRIBE' COURT CLAIM

Old foe Rowland alleges Harrods chief sought his help to smear Tory Minister

HARRODS owner Mohamed Al Fayed allegedly offered business tycoon Tiny Rowland £10 million and the ownership of shirtmakers Turnbull & Asser if the businessman would lie to a Parliamentary Select Committee to support his bribery allegations against the former Home Secretary Michael Howard.

Mr Fayed also claimed he had documents and information that were damaging to Mr Howard which he would also have given to the Select Committee if he agreed to lie to the Select Committee.

The charges are contained in a series of High Court writs taken out last week by Mr Rowland, copies of which have been reviewed by the Evening Standard and published online. Mr Rowland has also published a letter to the Home Secretary in which he accuses Mr Howard of bribery from him to investigate a Department of Trade and Industry inspection into the Harrods takeover by the Fayed.

Several other items of Mr Rowland's property — including a number of emeralds — were stolen by Mr Fayed at the same time, he will allege. The writs claim Mr Rowland advised the office of Turnbull & Asser of Prince Charles's allegations — and the



Tiny Rowland: His charges against the Harrods chief are made in a series of High Court writs.

At last! A full scale inquiry into the beef ban shambles

by PATRICK HENNESSY
Political Correspondent

A FURTHER INQUIRY into government blundering over the beef ban will be launched by the Government.

The investigation, expected to be headed by a senior judge, will examine the government's handling of former farming and health ministers such as Douglas Hogg and Stephen Dorritt — possibly including former Minister John Major.

It will also look at the conduct of the current government and the former Agriculture Minister Jack Straw, who was sacked last year under Tony Blair.

SO WHY HAVEN'T THEY BANNED SOCCER? IT'S THE MAIN PROBLEM

See Page 6

It has been reported that the main reason for the ban would be to ensure that the ban would not be used for a settlement by MPs yet.

It is also reported that the ban would be in place until the end of the year.

It is also reported that the ban would be in place until the end of the year.

Continued on Page 2 of 3

TV & RADIO GUIDE 32, 41 & 42 BUSINESS & DAILY 33 FEATURES 21 ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE 44 LETTERS 47 STARS 50

The British Crown has launched an all-out attempt to destroy Mohamed Al Fayed, through dirty tricks by MI6, lawsuits, financial warfare, and press attacks, such as that shown here.

notoriety throughout his entire business career; he is useful for dirty jobs, but is kept at arm's length from the establishment which owns him. As one British establishment source recently commented, in the context of Rowland's renewed assault on Al Fayed, "He is a bastard, all right, but he is *our* bastard."

Yet, how is it conceivable that Tiny Rowland, in 1960 a little-known businessman in Africa, who had not yet taken the helm of the Lonrho multinational through which he would make his fame and fortune, and who had a wartime record as a fervent supporter of Hitler, could be involved — in any fashion — in presenting precious gifts to the Queen Mother?

In addition, in his charges against Al Fayed regarding the alleged bribe for Michael Howard, Rowland opened a Pandora's box of sleaze, involving some of the most shady or criminal operations in which he has participated over decades. We shall recount some of those episodes, but first, we shall lift the veil on Rowland's connections to the royal family, the source of the extraordinary protection which has allowed him, as one British intelligence source put it, "to skate round the gallows" in dirty operations over many decades, which would have seen anyone else jailed ten times over. We shall then wind our way through some of the darkest recesses of British intelligence operations in the 20th century, questions raised

by Rowland's relations with Popov, and with the royal household.

On Her Majesty's Service

In 1948, Tiny Rowland suddenly emigrated from Britain to Africa, one step ahead of the taxation authorities, according to sources who knew him at the time. During the 1950s, he hooked up with the Rio Tinto Company, the mining giant which had been closely associated with the Crown, and with MI6 for decades.³ According to Rowland, he was Rio Tinto's "finance and commercial director for Africa." Certainly, Rio Tinto backed him in his early mining ventures, and he remained a well-paid consultant to the company until 1969, eight years after he took charge of Lonrho.

In the late 1950s, Rio Tinto, the Oppenheimer family's Anglo American Corp. and the British South Africa Company, the still-existing company set up in 1889 under Crown charter by Cecil Rhodes, were co-owners of a sleepy little mining company, the London and Rhodesia Mining Company, based in what was then the British colony of Southern Rhodesia. As part of the "Winds of Change" policy announced by Prime Minister Harold Macmillan in Cape Town in 1960, the British intended to grant nominal independence to their African colonies, while maintaining control over everything that mattered—access to international finance, the new countries' civil services, the prices at which the new nations could sell their raw materials, etc. As part of this new, "privatized" empire, the London and Rhodesia Company was to be geared up in a pattern typical of the British minerals cartel, in which a relatively unknown "junior" is sponsored as a front for the "majors," who would prefer not to be caught engaging in certain kinds of activities. In the case of London and Rhodesia, soon to be known as Lonrho, this involved financing and running guns to various "liberation armies" favored by British intelligence for the "Winds of Change," bribing heads of state, etc.

The chairman of London and Rhodesia at this time was Sir Joseph Ball, a former deputy chief of MI5, and the head of the Conservative Party's in-house "dirty tricks" department from the 1920s on. To gear up his company, Ball tapped a ruthless, dynamic young man whom he had deployed in intelligence activities in World War II—Tiny Rowland. An-

3. In 1962, Rio Tinto would merge with Consolidated Zinc Co. to become Rio Tinto Zinc (RTZ). It recently merged with its Australian offshoot, CRA, to become the world's largest mining company, and is once again known as Rio Tinto. Regarding its Crown and MI6 ties, besides the Queen's huge investments in the company, Rio Tinto's chief in the 1920s was Lord Alfred Milner, a founder of the Royal Institute for International Affairs (RIIA, known as Chatham House); the company had financed the British Special Operations Executive in New York during World War II of the famous "Intrepid," Sir William Stevenson, and then financed the postwar regroupment of British intelligence activities in Bermuda, where Stevenson set up a compound, and which spawned the Permindex apparatus which killed John F. Kennedy and made two dozen assassination attempts on France's Charles de Gaulle.

glo American chairman Oppenheimer looked into the background of the proposed new Lonrho chief executive and was aghast: Rowland had been interned as a pro-Nazi security risk to Britain for the early part of the war. Oppenheimer attempted to veto the appointment. But, in stepped City of London financier Harley Drayton, the controller of the British South Africa Company, and forced Rowland's appointment through. As a Rowland associate since the 1940s put it, "To his credit, Drayton stuck up for him. And fought Anglo and stood his corner. And I think he threatened Anglo, God knows with what, but he did. Drayton was a toughie. And Anglo backed down."

How could Drayton overrule the chief executive of what was then the largest mining company in the world? Because he, and his 116 Old Broad Street Group, *personally supervised the huge investments of the Crown, and of the Church of England*. The personnel in his 116 Old Broad Street Group reflected the royal money: His chief assistant since the 1930s had been Col. Sir Robert Deane, of a family which had provided key retainers for the Windsors for decades, including Baron Michael Adeane, private secretary to King George VI for many years, and the private secretary to Queen Elizabeth II (1953-72). Adeane recruited a favorite of Queen Elizabeth's, Angus Ogilvy, as Drayton's personal assistant. Ogilvy soon married Princess Alexandra, first cousin to the Queen.⁴

The deployment of some of the Crown's wealth into Lonrho was not unusual. The Crown often invested some of its immense riches in the mining companies which looted its colonies. The Queen invested so heavily in Rio Tinto itself, that its former chairman, Sir Mark Turner, once commented, "You're running into problems of what the government is going to say about the Queen's involvement." As for Lonrho, as Rowland later told DTI investigators, Harley Drayton told him the company was to be run by a troika of himself, Joseph Ball's son Alan, and Angus Ogilvy. Ogilvy was the royal family's representative on the board.

With this backing, and under Rowland's unscrupulous leadership, Lonrho soon became the dominant Western company in postwar Africa. Scandals followed Lonrho's rise, such as the time in 1971, when Lonrho treasurer Fred Butcher and two other company officials were arrested in South Africa for fraud. As a Rhodesian monthly, *Property and Finance*, reported at the time, "The British Royal Family is directly involved in the affair. The Hon. Angus Ogilvy, an executive director, was its representative on the Lonrho board; and Sir Basil Smallpeice . . . who is a close adviser to the Royal Family, was appointed to the board last year at the insistence of the Bank of England." The arrests triggered a severe liquidity crisis for Lonrho, and the company would have collapsed, save for the intervention by Duncan Sandys, former Secretary of State for the Commonwealth and for the Colonies, who

4. For more on Tiny's royal connections, see *EIR*, Nov. 21, 1997; and, *Tiny Rowland: The Ugly Face of Neocolonialism in Africa*, by an *EIR* Investigative Team (Washington, D.C.: *EIR*, 1993).

convinced the South African government to drop charges. Shortly after his intervention to save Lonrho, Sandys joined Lonrho's board; he served as chairman until 1984, after which he was appointed "president for life." As his obituary in the London *Guardian* emphasized, Lord Duncan Duncan-Sandys was the "key figure" responsible for implementing the "Winds of Change" policy enunciated by Prime Minister Macmillan.

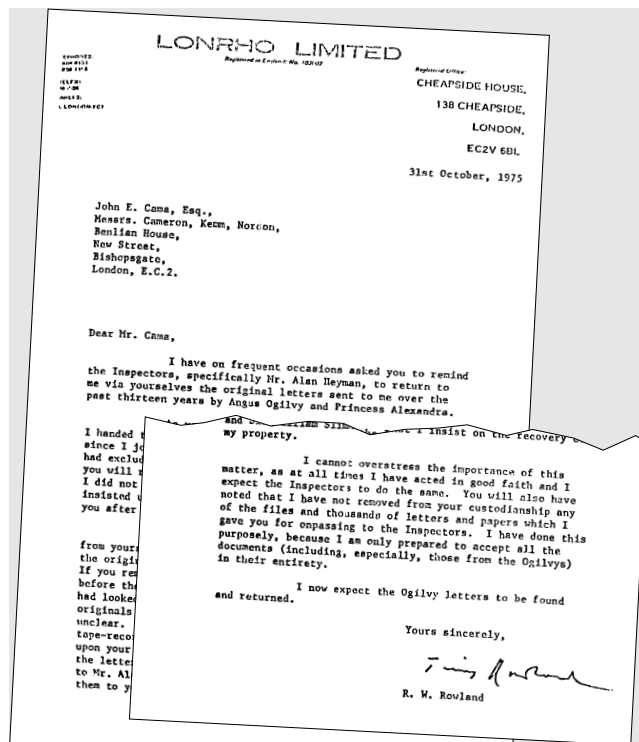
These, then, were the circumstances under which Tiny Rowland and his emeralds happened to cross the path of the Queen Mother, in or around 1960. And this was the protection which was to save his *derrière*, repeatedly, over the years.

Bribes for all

In the court papers Rowland filed against Mohamed Al Fayed, he claimed that Al Fayed broke into his safe deposit box in December 1995, in search of information that he could use to blackmail Rowland to testify—falsely, Rowland said—to the House of Commons Standards and Privileges Committee, that Rowland had bribed former Home Secretary Michael Howard for £1.5 million to have the DTI investigate Al Fayed:

"After the breakin, in or about March 1996, during a lunch meeting between the plaintiff and the defendant on the fifth floor of Harrod's Store, the defendant [Al Fayed] claimed he had information and/or documents damaging to the plaintiff [Rowland], showed him a brown envelope which he claimed contained such material, and told him that he could have the contents of the envelope, together with ownership of Turnbull & Asser (a business owned or controlled by the defendant) and a cash payment of £10 million, if he gave evidence to the aforesaid committee." Rowland told the *Evening Standard* of Dec. 4 that some of the documents he claimed Al Fayed had stolen from his safe "related to his activities on behalf of the British Government in India at the time of partition in 1947 and in Africa subsequently." Rowland had told associates decades ago, that he worked for the British government in India postwar, selling guns. The guns would have facilitated Hindu-Muslim fighting, the purpose for which Lord Mountbatten, the last British viceroy of India, orchestrated the partition of the subcontinent into Pakistan and India.

Rowland claimed that he had never bribed Home Secretary Howard. Notwithstanding the finding of the House of Commons committee that no such bribe had been given, a body of evidence has emerged, that Rowland *did* bribe Howard, through Howard's cousin Harry Landy, president of a Lonrho subsidiary. Certainly, bribing people was Rowland's usual method for getting his way. After the DTI investigated Rowland from 1973 to 1976, David Tudor-Price, counsel to the Department of Public Prosecutions, summed up the 1,000-page DTI investigative report, "This Report reveals *prima facie* evidence of criminal offences in a very clear form," among which, he said, was "£836,499 . . . admitted to have been paid as bribes, the majority of which was channeled through Rowland's personal account." And, said Al Fayed,



This letter from Tiny Rowland to his lawyer, John E. Cama, gives an indication of Rowland's intimate relations with the royal family. Princess Alexandra is the Queen's first cousin; her husband, Angus Ogilvy, is a favorite of the Queen, who in 1960 personally helped recruit Rowland to run Lonrho, then controlled by the Queen's financial manager, Harley Drayton.

in a letter of Dec. 1 to Lonrho directors: "It is a matter of public record that Lonrho paid a bribe of £600,000 to Graham Jones, the disgraced former Finance Director of the House of Fraser Group. Mr. Tiny Rowland admitted this to me in person and produced the supporting documentary papers. On Lonrho's behalf he offered an even larger bribe to Royston Webb, former Legal Director of House of Fraser Holding PLC. The bribe offered was £5,000,000 which Rowland subsequently confirmed could have been increased to £10,000,000 had Mr. Webb shown any willingness to accept a bribe." As for Graham Jones, he left Harrods Investments plc, and secretly went to work for Lonrho.

Al-Fayed continued: "Mr. Rowland also admitted to me in the course of various conversations that a substantial payment had been made to Michael Howard during the mid 1980s at a time when Mr. Howard was Government Minister. In one particular conversation with me he put the figure as high as £1,500,000 when he used the words, 'Michael Howard's got a million, a million and a half, whatever it is.' "

It seems that Al Fayed was not the only one to whom Rowland claimed that he bribed Howard. David Solomon, a lawyer for Al Fayed in various matters, submitted an affidavit to the Committee on Standards and Privileges, in which he said that Rowland called him on Oct. 26, 1994,

to try and settle possible litigation between himself and Al Fayed over the Graham Jones case, and other matters, including the Michael Howard case. In the course of that, Solomon said, "His final remark was that it was 'impossible to persuade me to say publicly that any Cabinet Minister . . . and so forth has received payments from me.' I recall particularly that Mr. Rowland placed clear emphasis on the word 'publicly.'" Solomon further stated that his notes taken during the phone call were typed up by his secretary the following morning.

Then, there was the meeting which Solomon had on Nov. 29, 1995 with Anthony Cardew, an adviser and confidant of Dieter Bock, the chief of Lonrho who replaced Rowland. Solomon was trying to see if a meeting could be arranged between Al Fayed and Bock. Solomon's notes on the meeting included the following:

"AC [Anthony Cardew] told me that DB [Dieter Bock] had been having a considerable amount of research undertaken into what Rowland had done during his time at Lonrho. There were difficulties because of the great volume of material, and the fact that Rowland was adept at covering his tracks. He then said that DB and his colleagues believed that Rowland had, through Harry Landy, bribed Michael Howard to secure the appointment of the DTI Inspectors. He did not tell me on what evidence this view was based, but it was implicit that there was evidence of which DB, and perhaps AC, were aware."

Harry Landy, who allegedly delivered the bribe to Howard, has had an interesting track record with Rowland over the years.

Robbing banks for MI6

On Sept. 23, 1974, the Israel-British Bank (IBB) declared bankruptcy, with over \$103.3 million in losses to its creditors. Seventy international banks and the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. were shaken by the shockwaves from its fall. It was the largest collapse of a British bank since the South Sea Bubble in the 18th century, and it caused a major international diplomatic incident among the United States, Great Britain, and Israel. Smack in the middle of it all, sat Tiny Rowland and his pal, Harry Landy.

The proximate cause of the IBB's collapse was that two of its officers, Landy and one Joshua Bension, siphoned off tens of millions of dollars in loans to dummy corporations in Liechtenstein. The results of an investigation by the British government were suppressed. No one knows where the \$100 million went. But, Tiny Rowland wound up in possession of many of the fragments of IBB. He became the chairman of the IBB subsidiary London City and Westcliff Properties, one of the largest real estate companies in London.

A British court convicted Landy of fraud, fined him £350,000, and sent him to jail for five years. The sentence was overturned on appeal, when a superior court judge ruled that the trial judge had been "too technical" in his final instructions to the jury. In Israel, a court sentenced Bension to 24

years in jail for his role in the IBB swindle, but the term was cut to 12 years. Bension served two years, before getting out of jail for "health reasons," after the intervention of Justice Minister Menachem Begin. Bension's daughter Leora was married to Begin's nephew, and Begin was godfather to one of Bension's children.

Rowland put up £100,000 bail for Landy. Members of Landy's family have been on the Lonrho payroll, while others were Lonrho shareholders. In the period in which Landy and Bension were siphoning off the funds from the IBB, Lonrho was having a severe liquidity crisis, in part brought on when its finance director, Fred Butcher, was arrested in South Africa. A London reporter who spent hundreds of hours investigating the case, summed up the IBB-Rowland connection: "The group [Lonrho] grew quite quickly under Rowland's direction. He was always doing deals, here, there, and everywhere, and as a result, the company faced liquidity problems. And at the same time as Lonrho was suddenly getting very much bigger, the IBB went bankrupt for a huge amount of money. And no explanation was ever given in the court case for where the money went. . . . It seems perfectly clear to me that he has ripped off . . . the Israel British Bank and taken over all that company at virtually no cost to himself. Enormous assets, in what could only be a criminal conspiracy. And he has never been prosecuted."

The lost \$100 million from IBB was never recovered, though the Official Receiver in charge of closing out IBB, found that much of it had been diverted into two Liechtenstein companies, which were controlled by Harry Landy and Bension. According to one investigator, a "director of at least one of the companies was also a director of a Lonrho Liechtenstein subsidiary."

A former associate of Rowland commented about the IBB affair, "You do not blow up a bank that size without assurances that there won't be repercussions." The IBB certainly went out with hardly a whimper. Through at least the early 1990s, it was the only fully authorized British bank ever allowed by the Bank of England to collapse. The DTI carried out an investigation into its failure, but the report was suppressed. Even Members of Parliament could not get their hands on it.

But, the name of Harry Landy was soon to pop up again, and in connection with Michael Howard. In 1987, DTI chief Paul Channon recused himself from major responsibilities in the department, because he was a distant cousin of the Guinness family, whose brewing empire was then under investigation for fraud. Much authority fell into the lap of the DTI's number-two man, Minister of Corporate Affairs Michael Howard. Abruptly, Howard accepted the charges made by Rowland against the takeover of the House of Fraser by the Al Fayed brothers, which several successive DTI heads had deemed not actionable, and an investigation was launched into the Al Fayed's. Why had Michael Howard, in effect, acted on behalf of Tiny Rowland? Curiously, Harry Landy, the man whom Rowland bragged had carried his bribe to Michael Howard, is Howard's first cousin! Ties between the Landy

and Howard families go back to the early part of this century, to a Welsh town from which both families come. Rabbi Morris Landy, Harry's cousin, performed the marriage ceremony for Michael Howard's parents. Like Harry Landy, Rabbi Morris Landy has been a big stockholder in Lonrho. When one of the Landy clan died in the late 1980s, Michael Howard and his family inserted a sympathy notice in the London *Times*.

Rowland's hob-nobbing with Landy and Bension also brought him into liaison with U.S.- and Israeli-based organized crime figures. According to sources familiar with the Bension family, Joshua Bension was on such terms with the late underworld kingpin Meyer Lansky, that Lansky was a guest in Bension's home during his early 1970s stay in Israel.

And, if anyone's financial dealings concerning the House of Fraser need investigating, it is Rowland's. In January 1981, Lonrho launched a bid for the House of Fraser, and awaited a go-ahead from the Monopolies Commission, at which point it would need massive funds to augment its 29.9% stake in the company. In September 1981, then-Lonrho chairman Edward DuCann was trying to raise \$1.1 billion, part for the House of Fraser, and part for other Lonrho business. You would think that the chairman of one of Britain's top 40 companies would go to a reputable bank to secure the funds. DuCann went instead to a shadowy company in Liechtenstein, Linscher Anstalt, which had a share capital of just 20,000 Swiss francs. The controller of Linscher Anstalt was Joseph J. Hirsch of New York. In a resumé Hirsch used to hand around, he listed nine personal references, among whom were Richard Amsterdam, Raymond Johnson, Jack Pearlman, and Max Gross—all reputed associates of organized crime boss Meyer Lansky! Curiously, some of the money which Landy and Bension looted from the IBB, was "invested" in the Seeburg Corp. in New York, part of Lansky's corporate empire.

An earlier bank heist

According to the now-deceased spy Dusko Popov, Rowland was involved in an earlier bank heist, as well, which, at the time, was Europe's largest. An Aug. 4, 1996, London *Sunday Times* article reported the gist of the case. It seems that a London businessman named Ernst Raven struck a deal to ship 620 tons of copper to Poland, at a time when trade in strategic metals with the East bloc was restricted. The Poles paid 1.95 million Swiss francs in advance into the Luscher Bank in Basel, Switzerland. On Nov. 20, 1954, Ernst Raven showed up at the Basel bank with shipping invoices and other documents proving that the metals had been shipped. He received the cash, stuffed it in a briefcase, and walked out. The documents, it turned out, were phony, and Raven disappeared into the mists of time.

Then, in September 1967, the *Times* reported, "The bank believed it had found Raven. It sensationally accused Rowland, by then one of the most influential businessmen in Europe, of being the mastermind of the swindle." The bank had a prominent law firm write to Rowland. Their letter said, "Our clients are aware of the gravity of the allegation which is

made, but they are satisfied of the truth of it." Then, suddenly, and with no explanation, the bank backed off. The following year, Popov wrote to the lawyer of one of Rowland's business associates, Stefan Klein, who, two decades later, was to work with him in matters related to the IBB affair. Popov wrote, "You know as well as I do, that Rowland is Raven and that it is Klein who organized every detail of 'Operation Raven.'" In some fashion, Rowland had apparently drawn Popov into the matter. Popov concluded to Klein's lawyer, "Fourteen years ago, I lost my fortune, my reputation and almost all my contacts for not having exposed Rowland" in the Raven affair.

Rowland's masters in British intelligence may have had something to do with the whole business. Said the Swiss prosecutor in his report, "The supposition expressed by Popov himself that the British secret service was the author of the document forgeries and of the fraud sounds somewhat fanciful, but it could not be completely excluded." For reasons never explained, the *Sunday Times* concluded, Rowland paid at least £8,000 over the next two years to Popov.

Rowland refused to discuss the matter with the *Sunday Times*, other than to issue the following written statement: "My only comment is that since the 1940s among my friends were Captain Stefan Klein, Nicholas Elliott and the celebrated intelligence officer Colonel Popov." That short statement spoke volumes—all were leading figures in British intelligence's "Double Cross Committee"! And, with the exception of Popov, all were later to be intimately involved with Lonrho. To appreciate the significance of those facts, we must pick up the track of the young Tiny Rowland in the 1930s.

A Nazi for the Crown

Tiny Rowland was born "Roland Walter Fuhrhop" in a British internment camp in India in 1917. He and his family emigrated from Germany to Britain in 1934. Rowland has kept all details of his past in Germany shrouded in a welter of half-truths and lies. However in 1988, a journalist and photographer for the London *Daily Mail* travelled to Hamburg, Germany, to visit the widow of Tiny Rowland's older brother, one of the few people alive who had intimate knowledge of his past. Rowland was furious when he found out, and claimed that his sister-in-law was a "confused old lady," who "couldn't be taken seriously." The *Daily Mail* journalist wrote a 2,000-word article based on that afternoon's talk with Mrs. Fuhrhop. That article, and copies of some of Mrs. Fuhrhop's photos made that day, now sit locked in a safe in the *Daily Mail*, waiting for Rowland's death. According to a source who has seen it, one of the photos shows Rowland in his Hitler Youth uniform, swastika and all. "You can't mistake Tiny. His face really hasn't changed at all," the source said.

Rowland joined the Hitler Youth in 1933, well before it became mandatory to do so. That he was indeed fiercely pro-Hitler, was testified to by two of his fellow soldiers after he joined the British Army in 1939-40. The first, James W.D. Anderson, in a 1985 affidavit, summed up his impression of Rowland, whom he had known well:

“There is no doubt in my mind that Rowland was pro nazi and I wouldn’t think that without good reason. He was a nazi sympathizer and you know if your a sympathizer you dont shout it from the roof tops, but you indicate it by a lot off things. He was no use to man nor beast and he was certainly no use to Britain, a fascist and complete and utter sham” (spelling and punctuation as in original).

A second affidavit, by Kenneth Calderbank, recorded how Rowland, thinking he was unobserved, cheered when he heard Nazi propagandist Lord Haw Haw’s account of the sinking of the British ships *HMS Prince of Wales* and *HMS Repulse* in December 1941.

After the incident described by Calderbank, Rowland was taken away by MI5 to an internment camp on the Isle of Man, where both of his parents were also being held. There was a rumor at the time that Rowland had been infiltrated into the camp by British intelligence. He had certainly tried to join the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS) in 1939, according to an old schoolmaster of his, who said Rowland had asked him for a reference. At any rate, according to sources in British intelligence, Rowland joined SIS well before the war’s end, working for the Double Cross Committee. His control agent, said one source, was the same as Dusko Popov’s — Nicholas Elliott.

One of the people who established the Double Cross Committee was Sir Joseph Ball, who was deputy chief of the Security Executive at the outset of the war, which was charged with reorganizing Britain’s intelligence services for the war. Ball, an intimate of Neville Chamberlain, was unabashedly pro-Nazi, and ran a network of agents promoting the Nazi cause, many of whom, like himself—and like Tiny Rowland—were homosexuals. One of them was Guy Burgess, his agent in the Anglo-German Fellowship, later notorious as a Soviet agent. Ball clearly knew Rowland during the war. Later, as Lonrho chairman from 1950-58, it was he who would recruit Rowland to replace him as Lonrho boss.

To this day, virtually nothing regarding the Double Cross Committee’s activities has been declassified; Rowland’s wartime record is highly classified as well, as the DTI found out in the mid-1970s, when it tried to get access to it. The Double Cross Committee’s ostensible purpose was to capture German agents in Britain and “turn” them, so they could be used to send back false information to the Third Reich. But, there was something much more sinister afoot. Some key Double Cross agents were used to maintain contact with the Nazi military and intelligence circles to profile—in order to forestall—the possibility of an anti-Hitler coup. As historian Anton Chaitkin has documented, powerful elements in the British establishment, aided by their cousins and co-thinkers on Wall Street, such as George Bush’s father, sponsored Hitler’s rise to power, including transferring the funds to make that happen.⁵ Yet, the massive support for Hitler within the British

establishment was of two different kinds: one group, including King Edward VIII (later the Duke of Windsor) genuinely supported Hitler, while others, such as Winston Churchill, did all they could to keep Hitler in power, not necessarily because they loved him, but because they wanted to see a drawn-out German-Russian war in which the two countries would bleed one another to death. When anti-Hitler officers came to Churchill in 1938, when he was in opposition, he coldly turned down their pleas for help, as he was to do during the war, as well. When the time came for war, the “genuine” Hitler lovers—such as Edward VIII—had to be dumped.

Through family connections in Germany, and through British intelligence, the British royal family maintained ties to Germany throughout the war. No one was more knowledgeable about these connections than George VI’s wife, Queen Elizabeth, the former Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon. As Kitty Kelley has recently documented in her book *The Royals*, Queen Elizabeth, now known as the Queen Mother, was allowed, even encouraged by the King, to “do the boxes” daily with him—i.e., to read the most sensitive intelligence dispatches from all corners of the world. At the end of the war, the royal household dispatched their trusted retainer, Anthony Blunt, on a secret mission to Germany, to retrieve all evidence of their ties to the “Hitler project.” And, at the war’s end, it was Queen Elizabeth who gave one of the royal family’s Modigliani paintings to Dusko Popov, for his extraordinary wartime services.

Yet, as American intelligence specialists have revealed over the past several years, there was one small problem with the Double Cross apparatus: *Many, even most of them were Soviet agents as well.* Blunt, for instance, was a key figure in Double Cross. So was Guy Burgess, and so was Nicholas Elliott, whose closest friend was Kim Philby, and who tipped off Philby to flee to the Soviet Union in 1963, when Elliott went to Beirut to “interrogate” him. And, according to the testimony of one shocked associate, Rowland was shamelessly pro-Soviet as well, and poured money and arms into the same guerrilla movements in Africa that the Soviets backed.

Had the Soviets put something over on the legendary British spymasters, or was there a deeper game afoot? To understand the Double Cross work vis-à-vis Hitler, and then its Soviet dimension, takes one into some of the deepest secrets of the 20th century.

The Trust

In November 1994, this author and colleague Scott Thompson, *EIR*’s specialist on the monarchy who had corresponded with Princess Diana regarding *EIR*’s October 1994 exposé, “The Coming Fall of the House of Windsor,” attended a book launch at Georgetown University in Washington for Anthony Cave Brown’s *Treason in the Blood*, a biography of Kim Philby and his father, St. John Philby. Cave Brown had earlier done extensive histories of British wartime intelli-

5. Webster G. Tarpley and Anton Chaitkin, *George Bush: The Unauthorized Biography* (Washington, D.C.: EIR, 1993).

gence, including *Bodyguard of Lies and C*, a biography of Sir Stewart Menzies.

After some remarks by the panel, we asked Cave Brown two questions. First, whether it were not true, as Lyndon LaRouche had first charged, and as Russian newspapers were then reporting, that Kim Philby et al. were, in fact, “triples,” working for British intelligence all along. Replied Cave Brown, “Yes, I have come across a good deal of, at least some proof, that you may be barking up the right tree.” Further, he emphasized, “If you make a study of the Philby case, you must ask yourself how it was that he managed to become the golden lad of the British Secret Intelligence Service. You must ask yourself how it was that he became so close to ‘C,’ who was a great practitioner of that old intelligence saw, ‘All men must count with you, but none too much.’” Philby had been sent to Washington, as first CIA chief Allen Dulles once said, with a single purpose: to establish connections with Soviet intelligence, in order to feed them, Double Cross-style, false information.

The second question put to Cave Brown was, given the abundant evidence that British intelligence had helped overthrow the Tsar in 1917, and that British agent Robert Bruce Lockhart had worked with a faction in the early Soviet secret police, the Cheka, in the legendary “Trust” intelligence operation, to strengthen the hand of Bolshevik “internationalists” such as Trotsky, to the detriment of “nationalists” such as Lenin, as in the “Lockhart Plot” of 1918, and that Lockhart and geopolitician Halford Mackinder had recruited Philby into British intelligence, wasn’t the coherence of Philby operating both as a “Soviet agent” and, ultimately, still for the British, tied up with the question of British grand strategy for control of Eurasia?⁶ Cave Brown replied that the two key figures who had arranged for Philby to go to Franco’s court as a correspondent for the *Times*, which directly opened the door for his recruitment by British intelligence, were Robert Bruce Lockhart, who had employed Philby on a part-time basis in 1936, and “Karl Haushofer, the German geopolitician.” “Subsequently,” said Cave Brown, “we were able to establish that Sir Robert Bruce Lockhart was the *first* person to have named Kim Philby as a likely lad for employment with the British secret service.”

“Now, as to the question of grand strategy and the British secret service angle,” he continued, “people will denounce you if you pursue this, but the simple fact is that that is *exactly*

6. In 1986 and 1987, Lyndon LaRouche directed a multi-lingual team of dozens of investigators who plumbed the archives of a dozen nations on the subject of who sponsored the Bolshevik Revolution. The results of this task force are summarized in “The Roots of the Trust,” by Allen and Rachel Douglas, 1987 (unpublished ms., 685 pp.). In November 1988, *EIR* issued a shortened version of one chapter of that manuscript, focussing on the famous “Lockhart Plot” of the summer of 1918, in which British intelligence agents Sidney Reilly, Capt. George Hill (the founder of Red Army intelligence and Cheka counterintelligence), and Robert Bruce Lockhart worked with an anti-Lenin faction of the Bolsheviks. Reprints are available from *EIR*.

what it was all about. Ever since the days of the Halford Mackinder theory—nobody remembers that, but the Heartland will rule the world and that this must be carved up—that was the way people *thought*. Certainly it was the way Menzies thought. I discussed this aspect with him. And certainly Kim Philby, through his father, was very much interested in, and concerned with, exactly that type of outlook.”

As LaRouche and associates have documented, the British were terrified, at the end of the 19th century, of an emerging alliance of nation-states, including Russia, Germany, and France, which was committed to building grand railroad projects across Europe and into Eurasia, along the model of the U.S. transcontinental railroad, around a grand design elaborated by Lincoln’s economic adviser, Henry C. Carey.⁷ The British purpose in launching the First World War (and the included Bolshevik Revolution) was to break up that mortal threat to the British Empire. And then, at Rapallo in the early 1920s, when the young Soviet government allied with Germany, and the specter rose once again, Britain’s answer was to foster the rise of Hitler, and the bloody carnage of World War II.

Brown concluded by observing that “Nicholas Elliott, Philby’s running mate, was in what one might call strategic deception operations, that is the kind of thing he was deployed to do.” Elliott was Rowland’s case officer in World War II, later became MI6 station chief for Africa, and, still later, joined Tiny Rowland on Lonrho’s board. When *EIR* was investigating the October 1984 assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, we found that one of the persons who openly coordinated the assassination effort from London was one Jagjit Singh Chauhan. With an introduction supplied by one of Chauhan’s friends, this author called him, and, after some discussion, asked him who were his closest associates. He replied, “Nicholas Elliott, one of the old boys of British intelligence.” With some prodding, Chauhan volunteered the number of Elliott’s flat in London. Reached soon after, Elliott confirmed, that he had indeed been working with Chauhan, but that these things could not be discussed further “over the phone.”

Rowland’s ties to British intelligence’s dirty business in India, which he claimed began in 1947, and which his friend Elliott was clearly engaged in at the time of Mrs. Gandhi’s assassination, were brought into question once again by the findings, announced in November 1997 by the Jain Commission in India, of its five-year investigation of the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi in May 1991. The commission named one of Rowland’s closest associates in India as involved in the plot, the guru Chandraswami, noting that Chandraswami had been in touch with “foreign intelligence agencies,” and that he had been involved in a 1987 plot to topple Rajiv Gandhi, as well.

7. Anton Chaitkin, “‘The Land-Bridge’: Henry Carey’s Global Development Program,” and William Jones, “How the British Empire Torpedoed Russia’s 19th-Century Land-Bridge,” *EIR*, May 2, 1997.